

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 40, line 4 with the following replacement paragraph:

The first series of tests were conducted using various amounts of sorbitan monooleate (Span 80) dissolved in diesel oil. The reagents were used as a 1:2 mixture by volume. In the absence of any dewatering aid, the cake moisture was 26.1% and the cake formation time was 158 seconds. At 2 3 lb/ton Span 80, the moisture was reduced to 20.9% and the cake formation time increased to 179 seconds. The moisture reduction is not as good as those obtained in other examples with hydrophobic particles. Probably, the relatively small moisture reduction is due to the surface tension lowering. The next series of tests were conducted on the silica sample floated using 200 g/ton of dodecylammonium hydrochloride as collector at pH.9.5. The hydrophobization by the collector coating reduced the cake moisture from 26.1 to 18.9% and the cake formation time from 158 seconds to 27 seconds. When the low HLB surfactant was added to the floatation product, the moisture was further reduced. At 2 lb/ton Span 80, the cake moisture was reduced to 8.4% and the cake formation time to 18 seconds. The improved dewatering brought about by the low HLB surfactants is most likely due to the hydrophobicity enhancement.